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A GENUINE

# ACCOUNT

OF THE

BEHAVIOUR, CONFESSIONS, and  
DYING WORDS,

OF THE SIX

## MALEFACTORS.

*K* V I Z.

WILLIAM WALTERS	JAMES GUNNEL,
THOMAS WILLIAMS,	THOMAS JONES,
ANNE ELLIOTT,	JAMES JOHNSON,

Who were Executed at

## GUILDFORD,

IN THE

County of SURREY,

On Tuesday, the 13th Day of APRIL, 1742.

*Wherein is fully related,*

*The LIFE of ANNE ELLIOTT, written by HERSELF.*



L O N D O N.

Printed for R. CROUCH, at the New Printing-Office in Fleet-Street.

(Price Three-pence.)

# Account of the Six Malefactors, &c.

**A**T the King's Commission of Oyer and Terminer, and General Gaol Delivery for the County of Surrey, held at the Town of Guildford, in and for the said County, on Friday the 26th, Saturday the 27th, and Monday the 29th Days of March, 1742, in the Fifteenth Year of the Reign of GEORGE the Second, before the Hon. Mr. Justice Fortescue Aland, one of the Justices of his Majesty's Court of Common-Pleas, and others of the Justices assign'd to deliver the Gaol of our said Lord the King, for the said County; six Men and two Women were by the Jury found guilty of capital Crimes, and received Sentence of Death, *William Walters, James Gunnell, James Johnson, Thomas Williams, Thomas Jones, Anne Elliot, Elizabeth Bridges, and Charles Burroughs.*

As no Report of any condemn'd Criminals (except London and Middlesex) are made to his Majesty, it is in the Power of the Judge of the Assize, in any County, to reprieve such as he thinks Objects of Mercy; and there appearing several favourable Circumstances in the Cases of *Charles Burroughs* and *Elizabeth Bridges*, his Lordship was pleas'd to reprieve them, and to order the other six for Execution.

As Guildford is the County Town for Surrey, whenever the Assizes are held there, such Malefactors as are ordered for Execution are detain'd in the Town Gaol, and suffer at the Gallows there; which is not the Case when the Assizes are held at *Kingston, Greydon, or Ryegate*, for the Convicts are then brought to the New-Gaol in the Borough, and Executed at *Kennington Common.*

To fix the Day for the Execution is always in the Power of the Sheriff; and the Time being settled for Tuesday the 13th Day of April, they were executed accordingly.

Whilst they were under Sentence of Death,

they gave the following Accounts of themselves, which are genuine, and not intermix'd with Stories purely to amuse People, as is too frequently the Case in Performances of this Sort.

**WILLIAM WALTERS**, late of the Parish of *Coniston*, was indicted for assaulting *John Fuller* the Elder and *John Fuller* the younger, Esqrs. on the Highway, putting them in Fear, and taking from them near fourteen Pounds in Gold and Silver, and three Diamond Rings on the 24th of March last.

*William Walters*, 29 Years of Age the 23d of January last, was born in the Parish of *St. Dunstan's* at *Stepney*, of honest Parents. His Father was a Brick-Maker, and gave his Son common Education at School, but never put him to any Trade. He supported himself chiefly by selling Linens, and other Drapery Goods, as a Hawker and Pedlar about the Country, and had so good a Stock, that he annually took out a Horse Licence and a Foot Licence, and this before he was 20 Years of Age. The first Step to his Ruin was frequenting the *Bear-Garden*, at *Hockley in the Hole*, where he got acquainted with a noted Fellow known by the Name of *Shock Egerton*, who soon brought him among the *Sporting-Men*, so that *Walters* made Shift in less than two Years to exhaust best Part of his Substance; but an Aunt in the Country happened to die about this Time, and leaving him 50 l. in ready Cash, it retrieved his sinking Credit, and set him once more on his Legs again. About this Time he married a young Woman of Credit, whose Parents gave him as a Fortune about 70 l. in Money, besides Household Furniture and Apparel. He says they liv'd very happy together several Years, and might have done so to this Day, had not his bad Management brought on him many Misfortunes. By this Wife he has one Daughter



now alive, aged 7 Years and three Months, who lives with his Sister in *Castle-Street*, near *Shoreditch Church*. His Wife about 12 Months ago, fell into Despair, but the cause was not then publicly known. He was ask'd by the Reverend Gentleman who attended him and his Fellow-Sufferers whilst they were under Sentence, if his taking to ill Courses was not the Cause of his Spouse's Lunacy. He shook his Head and wept, but declar'd, *It was not to the best of his Knowledge*: But own'd, that he had followed robbing on the Highway for near two Years and believ'd his Wife imagin'd that he did not come honestly by his Money, because she well knew that what Stock of Cloth he had could not support him in the extravagant Manner he liv'd; and that she had question'd him several Times about his Manner of Life, particularly on last *Lord-Mayor's Day* was Twelve-Month, when she accosted him in such a dutiful Manner on her Knees, begging for God's-Sake her own Sake, and her Child's Sake, that he would acquaint her with his way of Living? all which he refus'd, and the Woman never afterwards held up her Head, but was taken delirious, and at last grew so bad, that she was oblig'd to go into *Bedlam-Hospital*, where she still continues, calling out frequently for her Dear *Billy*; for some-body has been so silly to tell her of her Husband's Misfortune.

The first Robbery *Walters* ever committed was at *Mile-End*, on either the *Colchester* or *Bury Stage-Coach*, he knows not which; He says it was about the Time that *Cook* the Shoemaker of *Stratford* us'd to rob on the *Essex Road*, and that it was put into the News Papers, that *Cook* committed the Robbery. He says he took (to the best of his Remembrance) from the Passengers about 50s. in Silver, and from a young Woman, a Mourning Ring, with the Enamel almost wore off, which Ring he pawn'd for 7s. and 6d. in *Holloway-Lane*. The Robbery was committed between four and five in the Morning; and it being his first Attempt, and so well executed to his Satisfaction, it gave him Courage to go on new Enterprises.

The next Night, he said, he went on the *Bartholomew Road*, and riding thro' *Islington*, be-

tween nine and ten at Night, he saw two old Men on Horseback, who he thought were Drovers, and had been at *Smithfield Market*, and were returning home with their Money; but he was mistaken; for the Men put up their Horses at *Islington*, so that he was disappointed of his expected Booty. It was in November was Twelve-month, and very cold Weather, so that he had a mind to return home; but he alter'd his Resolution, and rode forward, expecting to find some Passenger on the Road who might supply him with Cash; but he declares he did not meet one Soul, either on Horseback or on Foot, between *Islington* and *St. Albans*. He got in to *St. Albans* a little after 12, and lay there that Night, having determin'd to attack the *Dunstable Stage-Coach* next Morning in a convenient Place between *St. Albans* and *Kick's-End*; but when the Coach went thro' the Town, he found there was not any Passenger in it, only a Soldier drunk and asleep. He tarried at *St. Albans* all that Day, and in the Evening set forward for *London*, and met with nothing till he came on *Flushing Common*, when he attack'd a Gentleman's Chariot, coming to *London*, and robb'd the Gentleman of a *Moidore*, some Silver, and a *Tortorshell Snuff-Box*, inlaid with Agate. He got safe to Town before 7 in the Evening, and went home to *Castle-Street*, near *Shoreditch Church*, and told his Wife he had been to a *Chamberlain's* who had some Linnen. His Wife did not know that he kept a Horse, which would undoubtedly have strengthened her Opinion of his illegal Courses; so he took Care to have a Stable at *Holloway*, and there he left his Horse whenever he came to *London*. He declares he never committed a Robbery on Foot, or in Company with any Person whatever.

The whole Number of Robberies he ever committed was no more than 19, and never one in the County of *Surry*, unless that which he died for, which was on *Mr. Fuller* and his Son, a little beyond *Smitham-Barn*; he took from them near 12 Pounds in Gold and Silver, and two Diamond Rings; he said that he saw a Gold headed Cane in the Gentleman's Hand, but would not take it as thinking he had got enough. He rode off, and intended to have gone for *Kingston*

directly, but his Horse being tir'd, he put up at an Alchouse at *Norfolk*, and thought to have only tarried about half an Hour to refresh himself and his Horse; but he believ'd (to use his own Expression) that he was infatuated, for Mr. *Fuller* having rais'd a Hue and Cry, he was taken by three Countrymen, and the next Day carried to *Guildford*, which was on *Thursday* the 24<sup>th</sup> of *March*; the next Day a Bill of Indictment was found against him for the Robbery, was try'd on the *Saturday*, and receiv'd Sentence of Death on the *Monday*. He said, the reason he went into the County of *Surry* to rob, was that he had committed so many Robberies on the *Newington* Coaches about five Weeks ago, and that the last Time he robb'd these Coaches, he took a Watch from a Gentleman, which Gentleman came to *Guildford*, and desired *Walters* would tell him what was become of the Watch; but he refus'd to tell him, unless he gave him a Guinea; which the Gentleman thinking too much, would not comply with. *Walters* own'd that in *January* last he robb'd a Coach in *Mile-End* Road, and took from a Lady a Gold-Watch, and 17 s. in Silver; he said he pawn'd the Watch for 7 Guineas, which he believes was worth 40; and going to redeem it three Weeks after, the Pawnbroker told him his House was robb'd, and that and many other Watches were stolen; and bid him be quiet for a little Time, and he would do all in his Power to recover it; but he says, the Pawnbroker (as he believ'd) knew which way he came by the Watch, and would never let him have it. He pawn'd several Watches and Rings with this Fellow, who came to *Guildford*, and was with him several Hours. *Walters* would never confess where he liv'd, nor tell his Name. He was a well-set Man, of a ruddy Complexion, about 5 Feet 4 Inches high, near 40 Years of Age, and very genteely dress'd. Two Days before the Execution, *Walters* declared that he was the Person who robb'd the two Gentlemen in a Chariot going to *Hackney*, which Robbery was said to be committed by a Man who kept a Publick-House. He says he took two Guineas from the Gentlemen, and some Silver, and he believes they had their Watches and Rings

in the Seat of the Chariot; which they might easily do, for he never got off his Horse to rob any Person, or made them get out off their Coaches or Chariots, as is frequently the Case with Highwaymen. He said the largest Booty that ever he made was on Mr. *Fuller* and the Lady abovemention'd, and that he never got above 8 or 10 Guineas by any of his other Robberies. He declar'd to Mr. *Bannister*, the Rev. Gentleman who attended him, that he was glad he was to die, and that he could not live, if he had happen'd to have been repriv'd. He could read and write very well, and sat down with an Intent to have wrote a more particular Account of his Robberies; but he said he could not remember them all; and as there was nothing remarkable, he would not give himself the Trouble. He was very fullen and doggid, and if any Person ask'd him a Question, he would laugh, and make no Answer. He said he sincerely repented of all his Sins, and hop'd God and those he had injur'd would forgive him.

ANNE ELLIOTT, Wife of *Thomas Elliott*, otherwise *Anne Elliott* Spinister, was indicted (with *Elinor Bridges* who was convicted, and receiv'd Sentence of Death, but is reprieved for Transportation) for breaking and entering the Dwelling House of *Joseph Wilkinson*, in the Parish of *St. George the Martyr*, in *Southern*, in the Night Time, and stealing a Silver Cup, a Silver Pint Mug, several Silver Spoons, a Silver Peper-Box, some Linnen, and other Things, and 25 s. in Money, the Property of the said *Joseph Wilkinson*.

As the Account of this unhappy Woman was written by herself, and deliver'd in order to be printed, we shall give it from her own Pen. The Original is wrote on seven sides of Paper, and is as follows:

It may not a little surprize the World, when I aver it for Truth, as a dying Woman, that I never was in that Action that deserv'd any Punishment in this World; tho' I would not have you think by this, that I liv'd the most upright Life, tho' I had a good Character; for as I never gave my Mind to Drinking, and always behav'd with Decency, not even my own Female Acquaintance suspected me to be a Company-Keeper,



for I had an Aversion to a Whore, tho' (God forgive me) I was one myself. I am now upwards of 33 Years of Age; My Father and Mother serv'd the late Lord Torrington 16 Years, and his Lordship was so kind to put him into the Custom-house, where he was with Reputation until his Death, which happen'd in the Year 1725. My poor unhappy Mother (who is still living at *Green-Bank, Tooley-Street*) being left in no great Circumstances, was oblig'd to put us out to get our Living. The young, I was put to Mr. Brown, a Linnen-Draper in the Borough, to wait on an old Lady at *Newington*. My next Place was at Mr. Corson's a Pewterer on *London Bridge*, who by reason of the Fire went to live at *Clapham*; but I never lov'd any Manner of Exercise, but what was gay, which made me soon grow tired of Service. It happen'd my Lady Torrington order'd me to St. James's End of the Town; I thought this very lucky, and that I was now in my Glory, being far from my Mother, who was very severe over me in particular; for instead of reading good Books, I would read Plays, or any thing of that Nature, which was a great Trouble to my Mother; for I was what the World calls a *fine promising Girl*; I mean as to my Person, being now about 16 Years of Age. I was very ambitious, and being at the gay End of the Town, did not want for the Addresses of many People of Quality, which giving room for my Virtue to be suspected, I was sent home in Disgrace to my Mother, who was always very uneasy about me. I soon got a Place, which was to wait on two young Ladies of Fortune, and now 'twas I first met with my Ruin; for a Man of Quality making his Visits to my Lady, fell in Love with me, and at last got his Ends, having taken me from my Place. I did not want the Vanity of my Sex, for I thought all that look'd at me was in Love with me. I was now in Lodgings at a Guinea per Week, where I had not long been before the ungrateful Man left me, without ever paying the Lodging. I did not want for fine Cloaths, but being left in this Manner, I was oblig'd to pawn a great many of them, which

was a great Grief to me; for as I observ'd that I had a good deal of Pride, I could not bear the Thoughts of stooping to any Thing that was mean. I liv'd all the Winter by making away with my Things, for at last my Gentleman would not see me. Thinking it a Folly to repine at my Fate, or to grieve at what was not in my Power to help, I sold the most indifferent of my Apparel (having fetch'd some Part out of Pawn with the Cash I rais'd by selling the other) and bought me a fine blue Tabby Gown (Laces I had) and a Petticoat with a Gold Orrice; so when dress'd, I wanted nothing but a Watch and Ear-Rings, tho' not one Gown to shift my self, my whole Stock being on my Back. In this Manner I went to a Friend on *Tower-Hill*, and said I wanted a Servant; she helpt me to one, and I directly took Lodgings at a Woollen-draper's at *Charing-Cross*, at a Guinea and a half per Week: This was my first setting out. Now I never thought how it was to be paid, but I hir'd a Servant, and the People of the House did not suppose me to be the Person I really was. They ask'd me where I liv'd, I told them in the Country, but they might hear of me in Great *Marlborough-Street*; for after my first Gentleman left me I quitted my Lodgings, and took one at three Shillings per Week, and did a little Plain-work; so on for the Winter. I did not think it proper to lend them to where I lived then, tho' very creditable People in the *Minories*. Every Thing was agreed on, and to my new Lodgings I went, having sent my Servant three Days before. I had no more left than one Shilling in the World, nor one thing to pawn, so thought it time to send once again to my Lord H. for so I shall call him; so I left word, if such a Person came (describing my Lord) I should be at home about five. I had sent to a Taylor to make my Man a Livery, so soon as I hir'd him; so into the City I went, and was determin'd, if any Thing offer'd, would except it. According to my Wishes, an old Gentleman follow'd me, at my returning home, in *Chancery* he spoke to me, but being unacquainted with the Way of picking up Sparks, was at a Loss how to behave on this Occasion. I

making no answer, he beg'd Pardon for his Mistake, and left me. I was next to think what an Advantage I might have made; besides I had not din'd, or had any thing at Home, or any Money, for my Shilling was left for my Man, and five Days out of seven gone of my Week's Lodging. If ever I saw my own Folly it was now. Walking between *St. Paul's* and *Katharine Street* in the *Strand*, where going to cross the Way, my old Spark met me, and offer'd me his Hand: My fine Shoes and Petticoats so allur'd the Eyes of him, that he insist'd I should drink a Glass of Wine; so we went to the Fountain. At this Time of Day I was as much ashamed to go to a Tavern, as now to a Bawdy-house. I did not want much persuading, but the going in was much surpris'd at the Behaviour of two Women, who a Man had left for the reckoning; it shocked me very much, as I might suppose I should shortly come to the same myself; my Countenance shew'd my Concern; my Spark insist'd to know the Reason of so sudden a Change; for Excuse, I told him I believed it was a bad House, so he paid for the Pint of Wine and we went to the *Bedford Arms*. He had not din'd, and therefore he ask'd me to Stay. I desir'd he would give me leave to send for my Servant, which accordingly was granted; but when he came, I hardly knew him, for his new Livery was come Home, and he dress'd, and the Waistcoat so trimmed with Silver Lace, that my Spark took me for a Woman of Quality. I enquir'd if any Person had been at Home, tho' I expected none, but my Lord, who it seems had been at my Lodgings, and had left a Letter with a Guinea in it. My old Gentleman going down Stairs to order Supper, I gave my Man the Guinea to buy some Necessaries which were wanting, and he went away. I perus'd the Letter, and found there were some Reflections in it which I did not deserve; however, I believe his Lordship was afterwards convinced that he was more to blame than I was. My Companion and I having supped, we went from the Tavern to a Bagnio, where we spent the Night. I could not forbear crying at the Contents of the Letter, and the Gentleman being very desirous of know-

ing the Cause of my Grief, he pick'd me, when I told the Truth; on his making me a present in the Morning of ten Guineas, I promised to meet him again, which accordingly I did. By his liberal Presents, I got all my Things again, and now appear'd in the Park, and every publick Place of Resort, for he did not pretend to keep to me, nor did I keep to him. I did not go far out of Town this Summer, for proving with Child, put an end to my Horse Racing; but had so improv'd my Time, that I did not want for Company, and the best the Town did afford. At my Lying-in, I did not wait for Godfathers; the Duke of *M-b-h* was one, and my old Gallant the other, who was a whole sale Linnen-draper near *Aldgate*. I soon after disobligh'd him, and got acquainted with a Merchant's Son in the City, to whom I was very true, for his Temper suited mine a Tittle. I was very extravagant, and he the same, till his Father sent him to *Turkey*, where he dy'd. I after got acquainted with a Member of Parliament, who not liking Lodgings, took me a House in the *Strand*. So after living near two Years at the Woolen-draper's, with the same Servants I went to House-keeping, and let up a Milliner, so that I had then a prospect of doing well, but could not confine myself at home, for I kept a Country Lodging in order to carry on private Amour. My Friend now was my Lodger, and paid me 25 s. per Week, tho' my Servants might not be made privy to an Affair of this Nature, tho' my Man knew it. My second Floor I let out in the Parliament Time, for my House was exceedingly well furnished, no Cost being spar'd. Here I liv'd in good Repute, for being a gay Woman, I work'd for People of the first Rank. Now I found the Disadvantage of talking *French*, but upon applying to a Master, I took it so well, that in a little Time had it as pat as *English*, and having a good Voice, I learnt *Italian*, and Musick, and Dancing. I liv'd four Years in this House, but at last disoblighing my Friend, by selling a Bond and Judgment, in order to care my Goods, which I was inform'd were going to be taken from me by him, I never got into Favour any more, but he gave me



Fifty Pounds, and I was married to a young Boy that had neither Sense or Manners, and living otherwise than his 13 s. per Week could support, I had an aversion to my Spouse and left him. Now being dissolute again, for the Men put the Judgment in Execution; so what I had was taken from me except my Clothes, which were considerable. Now I was with my Son exposed to new Dangers, I had another Offer made me, which I did not accept of, but was soon arrested by a Last Merchant, and I turn'd myself to the Fleet, but he soon took my Note for a Time. So on getting clear I took my Son and went to *Maryland*, by the Desire of a Captain who was in the Fleet Prison. The last Act for relieving Insolvent Debtors, I came over and received the Benefit, leaving my Son behind, with another I had by the Captain there. On coming home, I was determin'd never to go on in this Course of Life, so buying some Things necessary, I went to Service at a Cabinet Maker's by *St. Paul's*. My Mistress took great Delight in me on the Account of the Children, for I could talk any Language; and as you will find my Master took no less; he would often, as Opportunity serv'd, kiss me, but I was not as I thought to be drawn in any more. I often pray'd to God to keep me out of all Temptation, and my Master finding he could not gain his Point, he made use of the following Project; I asked to go out, when I had been there three Quarters of a Year; he asked me before my Mistress which end of the Town I was going to; telling him the City; stay a little said he, I will send a Line to a Gentleman. He then directed it, and he charged me to deliver it to no Person but himself. So accordingly I went, when to my great Surprise found it to be my Master, dress'd in a Night Gown; for he had inform'd the People he expected his Wife out of the Country. Now as I was trepanned, thought it more prudence to be quiet than to make an Uneasiness at Home. You may think my Resolution was ill-grounded, when I tell you I never went home again. He quickly left me, for I expected the same *Homage*, and *Marks of Good Manners* as I was accustomed to before, but he knew nothing of the Matter;

so not liking him for a Companion, after living with him half a Year, and with Child by him, desir'd he would forbear his Visits, but I could not get rid of him, so I mov'd away unknown to him. I laid in soon after, and as I had known the Necessity of Money, I was now more saving, for I had enough to defray all Charges. I entirely giving a Loose to my Inclinations, I took a Lodging convenient for the Purpose I intended to pursue. So living near a Bagnio was often sent for, and took very much to Company, and got in one Winter, besides my Expences, Seventy Guineas. I was arrested for the Hire of a Coach and Four, that I think I kept out 12 Days, as one Trouble never comes alone, my Mantua Maker threw in her Action, and having Occasion for a Surgeon, not paying him I was arrested at his Suit; but having a large Acquaintance soon got clear of these Distresses. I was after put in the Marshalsea, then White-chapel Goal, but wanted for nothing. Continuing in this Way of Life, I soon found the ill Consequence of it, for my Health was much impair'd, and making my Case known to Mr. Gird, he thought a Salvation was proper for me, on which I took a Lodging at 8 s. per Week, and a Nurse at half a Guinea, and underwent the Operation. Being acquainted at this Time with a Captain of a Ship, and a Merchant in *Bilbao*, the People did not know what my History was. The Captain going to the *Barb*, gave me Opportunity to entertain Company whenever I pleas'd. So having no constant Supply of Money, I often wanted Cash, and was in such a Pitch of Wickedness, that I would often dress myself to go into the City, and seldom without Success, for at this Time I had exceeding good Clothes, and having a modest Behaviour, and a sober Countenance, deceiv'd the World so far, that they ask'd me for any Favour more than breaking a Bottle and making an Appointment, and this seldom without a considerable Present for a Pair of Gloves. As my Lodging was in the City, my Friends lay amongst the Factors and Merchants; so I often met with out-landish People, and not wanting for Wit, was an agreeable Companion. I need not repeat, that I could talk any Language, for my Cap-  
tain

tain was a *Dutchman*. I lodged now at a Gardner's near *Vaux Hall*, but my Town-Lodgings was in *Fenchurch-street*. I never admitted any Person home, except out of good Manners to see me home, and directly to take their Leave. Now I was not mercenary, for I never asked any Thing, and often wanted abundance of entreating to take any Thing. Being with Child, thought proper to let some Person know it that was able to provide for it and me; so acquainting a *Lisbon Merchant* of it I wanted for nothing; but as I was kept by no Person, I did not pretend to tell him it was his, or did he do more for me after I was up than was usual. Now I come near the Crisis of my Fate, for going to see a Person in the Fleet, fell desperately in Love with an old Quaker, which was the first Time I ever had more Regard for one Man than another, otherwise than Civility. Here I was contented with his Circumstances, and could not bear the thoughts of seeing any other Company; but finding the old Man's Wife coming to Town, thought I should be left, so would have imposed so far on him, to have made him believe I was with Child, but he no such Fool, turned me off on that Account. Now having lost all my Acquaintance, by leaving both my Lodgings, was arrested again, and for fear of another Action, went and took a Lodging in *Holbourn*, near the Cross-Keys Tavern, but was obliged to keep from home, till I could get Money to pay a Debt I was afraid of being troubled for. I went to a Friend where I stay'd till it was made up; and here it was I came to see the Person that took my Life away. Having given a Note to pay half a Guinea a Month, thought it proper to go home, and wanting a Servant hir'd this young Girl, and she being very bare of Necessaries, I made some scruple of taking her, but my Friend telling me she was to have some Clothes of her Mother's from *Chatham*, I took her. She went twice to *Billinggate*, as she told me, to enquire for a Hoy from *Chatham*. Sometime after she told me, it would be high Water about two a Clock, and she should be sure to meet with the Master, so I gave her Leave, but some Company coming to dine with me, pre-

vented my Maids going. In the Evening I going to *Vaux-Hall*, left Word I should not be at home till Night, for I never admitted any Person to lie at my Lodging or make me late Visits. I lay at *Lambeth*, my Spark living in the Borough, I insisted, of my dining at his House, he kept the *S-Tavern*, and died since my Confinement. I promised him to dine, and coming over St. George's Fields with him, I told him I must either borrow an Apron or get my own wash'd, and leaving him I went to my Friend where I had my Maid from, and was surpris'd to find her there. She told me as I was out, she took the Opportunity of going to meet the Hoy early in the Morning, for now it was not above 8 o'Clock. I set her to wash my Apron; I did not see then what there was in her Bundle, but she told me it was Plate, and some Caps, one of which she put on. I saw a large rusty Canister of Tea. I told her it had been better had it been Money. She said she would sell some of the Plate, and I going to a Friend of mine, I sold a Pepper-box, and she fetch'd a Gown and quilted Coat out of pawn with the Money; so I sent her home and I went to dine. At Night I saw the Things, the Cup was mark'd I. W. in the Spoons was a Scratch out, I ask'd her the Reason; she told me her Mother had done it, for it was the Crest of a Gentleman's Arms; in a Fortnight I sold another bit, which was a Spoon, and she bought two Shifts with the Money. It may be suppos'd, by relating the Story in this manner, I endeavour to cloke my villainous Practices, but on the contrary, believe me, I don't deny any thing I ever was guilty of. On going to pay half a Guinea of a Bnd, I was struck with Surprise, to find the Place advertised that my Maid was possess'd of, the Person coming that was to receive the Money, I told him the Case. He persuaded me to send for the Mistress, or to have the Girl took up, but I did not take his Advice, but accused her with stealing it, which she deny'd, but finding she was to go away, took an Opportunity to rob me. As soon as I found it out I acquainted my Landlady, for being only in a Ready Furnish'd Floor, had other Things than my own. I found out the

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the Villainy of my Maid on *Saturday*, and she took Puiſon of the *Sunday*, and by reaſon of a Blister did not go from me till *Wednesday*; on the *Saturday* following, I found her out and on telling the People of the Houſe, who were my Acquaintance, not to entertain her, and related the Affair of her Maſter's Plate, and beating her, and ſtripping her of my Things, ſhe ſwore I ſhould go to Newgate. Now if I had known my ſelf concern'd with her, I ſhould not have ſtaid in this manner, or would have ſtaid in my Lodgings, but ſhe promis'd to clear me. God, I hope, will forgive her. I can't ſay I can, but hope I ſhall before I die. I am ſhortly to give an Account of all my Actions, this is true, that I did not know they were ſtolen for two Months after, or ever was Accessary to Man or Woman being wrong'd through the whole Courſe of my Life. I own I am much in Debt, but as to Pilfering or Thieving, I am clear of, as I ſhall anſwer to the great God. I hope young Women will be aware of Men's Enticements, and on my bended Knees, I beg of all People not to afflict my tender Mother and dear Siſter. As to my dear Children, I hope they will never be inform'd that their poor unhappy Mother was hang'd. I die an unworthy Member of the Church of *England*. I hope I have made my Peace with God, and that I ſhall, through the Merits of my Bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer, be receiv'd into his Heavenly Kingdom,

*Guildford, April*

12, 1742,

ANNE ELLIOTT.

P. S. One of my Children is dead. My Evidence ſent to her Maſter, and inform'd him I was at the taking the Things. If ſhe was never ſuſpected to be the Thief, I never was, and ſhall give an Account to Almighty God. — All People comfort my unhappy Mother. I hope one Perſon in the Borough who came out of the Fleet, will forgive the Impoſition of my ſaying I was with Child by him.

So far doth this Woman give an Account of herſelf; and declar'd the above-written was as juſt and true in every Particular.

While ſhe was under Sentence of Death ſhe, was made to believe in the former Part of her Confinement, that ſhe ſhould be reprieved; which cauſed her not to behave with ſo much Decency as ſhe might otherwiſe have done; but when ſhe was inform'd that the Warrant for her Execution was ſign'd, and that there was no Hopes, ſhe buſt out in a Flood of Tears, and ſaid there was no Dependence on Friends, for that when Poverty and Miſfortune, (as ſhe had always obſerv'd) afflied any one, the World deſpiſed them.

She wrote ſeveral Letters to Gentlemen, to intercede for her; but never received any Answer to one of them.

On *Thurſday* the 8th Inſtant ſhe ſent a Letter to her own Mother, the Contents of which were as follows:

Dear MOTHER,

*I Am ſurprized that I have not heard from you. I own I have been a very great Tormentor of you, ever ſince I knew Good from Harm, but now is the worſt of all. I hope you will forgive all my Behaviour towards you. I dearly Suffer now. I deſire that you will ſend my Stays by the Guildford Waggon; for I have a great many Viſitors every Day, and I think it is a painful Thing to ſee a Woman without Stays. I ſuppoſe you keep them for my Siſter Sarah. Pray, Mother don't be angry, but I think it's unkind to ſlight me in my laſt Moments. I deſire you would go to Mr. S ---, the Maſter of B ---, and ſee if he can do any Thing to get me a Reprieve. You may, if you pleaſe, call on Mrs. L ---, but I deſire you would let her draw nothing from you in relation to me, for ſhe is a very cunning Woman. The Waggon comes out every Day for Guildford, ſo that if you ſend me any Thing, I ſhall not be diſappointed.*

*I am, dear Mother,*

*Your poor unhappy Daughter,*

*Guildford Goal,*  
*March 8th, 1742,*

ANNE ELLIOTT.

THOMAS WILLIAMS, and THOMAS JONES, were indicted for privately ſtealing two Sugar-Loaves, value 8 s. in the Shop of

*Isaac Kimber*, on the 28th of February last.

*Thomas Williams*, near 20 Years of Age, was born of honest and creditable Parents, in the Parish of *St. Botolph's Aldgate*. He said, that his Father was a Poulterer in *Whitechapel*, and brought him up to his Business, after bestowing very good Education upon him. Old Mr. *Williams* liv'd very well in the World, and was a Man generally respected for his fair and candid Dealings in Trade; but his Son *Thomas* would never follow the Steps of the Father; for instead of minding his Business, he would be sure to be at every Publick Place where young People in low Life resorted, and no one more affected to dress like a *Knowing One* than he did. He says that the first Place he met with his Ruin, was at *Tottenham-Court Fair*, where being with some Girls belonging to *St. Giles's*, and they all went to a Lodging-House, (being Boys and Girls six in Number) and lay all that Night, and in the Morning he and his Companions were obliged to pawn every Rag of Cloaths to clear what they had spent the over Night. From this very Time, he says, that he went to Thieving, and in a little while came acquainted with *Jones*, otherwise *Jacard*, *Ben. Hodges*, *Forbisher*, and another young Lad, who is not yet taken, and as his Parents live in Credit, he would not mention his Name, but hopes he will refrain the evil Courses which he lately embark'd in. This *Hodges* is a little Urchin, not nine Years of Age; but it is surprizing (as *Williams* declar'd) to think what a Capacity and Inclination he had for Villainy. They us'd to be very frequently at the House of *M-----* in *Joyner's-Street*, the Backside of *St. Thomas's Hospital*, and whilst they were drinking, *Ben* would go out, sometimes for six Hours together, and take a Survey of some Part or other, either in the City or the Borough, that the Gang might know in the Evening where to make the Attack. Whatever *Ben* said, he generally spoke to Mr. *M-----*, who us'd to applaud him, and call *Ben* his best Boy, and say that he was worth fifty other Lads of the Trade; and that one Night a Fellow who lives

near *Cripplegate*, and *M-----* laid a Wage of 10s. that *Ben* could commit more Robberies in two Nights, than any Boy he could bring could in a Week. This was purposely done to set the Boy to Work, for whatever was got, *M-----* was the Receiver of it, and never gave him above one Quarter of the Value. *Williams* says they committed great many Robberies together. The first was in *Whitecross-Street, Cripplegate*, where knock'd down a Man who was in Liquor, and took his Hat and Wig, and nine Shillings, and some Silver out of his Pocket. The Hat and Wig they sold for three Shillings, tho' he says he believes it was worth 30s. for that the Man they sold it to, afterwards sold it for 26s. after it had been clean'd and comb'd. *Williams* does not particularly remember all the Thefts they committed in company of each other; but he gave an Information of a great many, when he was first taken up, and carried before Justice *Engel*. He said, that he expected to be admitted an Evidence, or that he would have made no Information, and said that he was not well us'd in being indicted for the Fact, when he was so ingenuous in his Confession. The Robberies he acknowledged was, That about two Months ago, they stole two *Cheshire Cheeses* from a Cheesemonger near *Whitechapel Church*; about a Week afterwards they stole from a Cheesemonger the Corner of the Blue-Boar near *Whitechapel-Bars*, one *Gloucester Cheese* and one *Cheshire Cheese*; some Days after they stole from a Cheesemonger near *Billinggate* four *Gloucester Cheeses*; about a Fortnight before they were taken up, they stole from a Pork-shop in *St. Thomas's* half a Ham and a Fore-loin of Pork;—from a Shop near *Shoreditch Church*, 12 Pair of Mens Worsted Stockings; from a Shop near *Norton-Falgate*, just by *Spirite-Tard*, one Canister of Tea;—from a Shop near *Bishopsgate* four Pair of Stockings;—from a Grocer near the Gully Hole in *Tooley-Street* one Sugar-Loaf, and on Saturday, Feb. 28, from Mr. *Kimber* in the Borough two Sugar-Loaves; from a Butcher's in *Newgate-Market*, a hind Quarter of Veal. —All these Things (except the Stockings stolen from *St. Margaret's-Hill*)



were sold to M—, for less than one Fourth of the Value.

JAMES JOHNSON, late of St. George's *Southwark*, was indicted, for that he, after the first Day of May, in the 14th Year of his Majesty's Reign, *to wit*, on the 3d of November last, in the Grounds of *Thomas Love*, two *Wether* Sheep, value 48 s. and one *Ewe* Sheep, value 17 s. did steal and drive away, contrary to the Statute. In the last Session of Parliament, Sheep-stealing was made a capital Offence, which before was only a single Felony.

*James Johnson*, 36 Years old, was born at little Town call'd *Beefsworth* in the County of *Northumberland*, of very poor and mean Parents, who died when he was a Child. He says, that he was brought up to Husbandry Work, which he follow'd in the Country till about eight Years ago, and then he came up to *London*, and work'd some Years at Labouring Work at *Islington*, and in other Parts near *London*, and always behaved honestly till within a Year past, when (as he said) for want of Employ, he took to stealing Sheep, not knowing that the Consequence of his Theft (if he was detected) would be the Loss of his Life. He was a silly unthinking Creature, and knew but little of his Duty to God or Man; but the Reverend Gentleman who attended him, took a great deal of Pains to instruct him, and prepare him for his sudden Change. He own'd, that what *Mr. Love* had sworn on his Trial was very true; he said he freely forgave every Body, and died Penitent, and in Peace with all the World.

JAMES GUNNELL, of *Mitcham*, was also indicted for Sheep-stealing, after the Time, *viz.* the First of May, 1741, from which the Act commenced, which makes Offences of this Kind Felony without Benefit of Clergy. The Sheep by him Stolen were the Property of *Elizabeth Constable*, of *Mitcham*, and were charged on the Prisoner to be taken out of the Church Yard.

*James Gunnell* was about 35 Years of Age, born in the Town of *Mitcham* in the County of *Surrey*, of honest Parents, who were well respected in the Neighbourhood, and indeed by all that knew or had Deal-

ings with them. Their Circumstances being but narrow, they could not afford their Children any extraordinary Education, but gave them such as poor Working People generally do. *James* was put to School when young, and when he was able to Work he was brought up as a Husbandman, by which he maintained himself and Family very well. He said that for some Time past he work'd in the *Whistler's* Grounds about *Mitcham*, and the Neighbourhood, and behaved himself to the Liking of his Masters.

Perhaps there has not been any Person under Sentence of Death, that has behav'd more Penitent than *Gunnell*; his Carriage would have melted the most obdurate Heart; and his frequent Lamentations for his unhappy Wife and miserable Babes, were such as melted those who saw him, into Floods of Tears. Words cannot express the different Pangs of Grief and Disquietude that this unhappy Man labour'd under. Such Agonies frequently seiz'd him, that for whole Nights, Sleep was a Stranger to him. He was directed to compose himself, and as there was no hopes of Mercy in this World, to make his Peace, and cheerfully to submit to that Providence who had afflicted him. Nothing (he said) vex'd him, but the Hardships his poor Family would suffer, and that Death was not so terrible to him as parting with his dear Wife and Children. What is remarkable of this Man, he never would confess stealing the Sheep. He own'd some of the Mutton was found in his House; but he declar'd he bought it. He was ask'd, *Why he confess'd before the Justice?* He replied, *I was in Liquor, and knew not what I did or said; and they promis'd they would be favourable.* How far this may be credited, must be left to the World. One may imagine, that a Man who was not a Stranger to his Duty to God and his Neighbour, would not go to Death with a Lie in his Mouth. No Person could be more penitent under such Circumstances: he very often pray'd, and sung Psalms thrice every Day from the Time he receiv'd Sentence to the Day of his Execution. He declared his Faith in Christ, and hop'd God Almighty would have Mercy on his poor Soul.

THOMAS JONES was 19 Years old, born at *Bosnal Green*, of poor Parents, his Father being a Weaver, and he a Draw-boy to him. He own'd he had been concerned in a great many Robberies, and died Penitent.

If either of the Prisoners at any Time laugh'd, *Gunnell* would reprove them, particularly *Walters* the Highwayman, who often had very odd Flights, so that *Williams* would make sport of him, and the Day before his Execution, said, that when he was at the Gallows, he believed he could not forbear laughing at *Walters*.

### *The Day of EXECUTION.*

In the Morning the Rev. Mr. *Bannister* attended, and they all being brought into a Room in the Prison, he pray'd with them a very considerable Time. Mrs. *Elliot* wept very much, and exclaim'd against *Bridget*, the Woman who was concern'd in the same Robbery, and convicted, but afterwards repriev'd. She was told, that it was her Duty to forgive all those who had injur'd her, and to make her Peace with God. She reply'd, *God, forgive her, but I can't; she has been the Cause of taking away my Life. I never robb'd any Person, nor was I concern'd in breaking open the House, or near the Place when it was broken open, as I call God to witness, before whom in a few Minutes, I must appear.* The Prayers being ended, they were taken into an adjoining Yard, where their Irons were knock'd off. A well-dress'd Man spoke to *Walters*, and told him he knew him in the City of London. He reply'd, *I am very well known in the City, for I was a Watchman belonging to St. Mary Woolnoth in Lombard-Street; and afterwards a Servant to Mr. D—, who is Owner of many of the Warehouses near London-Bridge; but you need not take the Trouble to tell them I am hang'd, for they will know that before you get home.* When *Walters*'s Irons were off, he walk'd about the Yard whistling, and began to sing, *Can you leave your Nancy.* When their Irons were all knock'd off, they were carried in a Waggon to the Place of Execution,

*Walters* smiling at he went along. *Williams* reading, Mrs. *Elliot* weeping, and calling on God to have Mercy on her Soul. *Gunnell* and *Johnson* were very penitent, and *Jones* (the Boy) wringing his Hands, and wept bitterly.

### *At the Place of EXECUTION.*

Mr. *Gunnell*'s Brother came up to him, and asked him if he had any Thing particular to say before he left the World. He reply'd, *Only be kind to my poor Wife and Children. I die innocent.* The same Person, who some Days before had been with *Walters* to beg he would tell him where his Watch, of which he had been robb'd by him, was pawn'd; *Walters* told him, and the Sum it was pawn'd for. When they were all ty'd up to the Gallows, Mr. *Bannister* came into the Waggon, and pray'd by them upwards of half an Hour, and then sung a Psalm. They were all ask'd if they had any Thing further to say. *Williams* said I am guilty of Robbery for which I die. *Jones* said, I have been guilty of many Thefts, and deserve Death. *Walters* declar'd he was guilty of robbing Mr. *Fuller* and his Son. *Johnson* confess'd, the stealing Mr. *Love*'s Sheep, and said he had stolen some Scores in the County of *Middlesex*. *Gunnell* said I die innocent. Mrs. *Elliot* was ask'd, if she had any Thing further to say. She reply'd, No; or, ly that I am innocent. God forgive all my Enemies, and grant they may repent of their Sins. This Woman was very unwilling to submit to her Fate. The Prayers being ended, the Waggon drew away, while they were calling on God to receive their Souls.

Now, Just before they were turn'd off, they desir'd the Bargemen, and other People, who were very numerous at the Gallows, not to let their Bodies be taken by the Surgeons. As soon as they had hung the usual Time, they were cut down. *Gunnell*'s Brother took Care of him; and the Mob carried all the other five to *Guildford Church* yard, where having watch'd them all the Night, they were decently buried the Day following.

F I N I S.

